

The Cathedral Church of the Holy Trinity
commonly called

**CHRIST CHURCH
DUBLIN**



THE ADVENT PROCESSION

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

SUNDAY 1 DECEMBER 2024

17.00

On the first Sunday of Advent, we find ourselves in a unique position, standing both at the beginning and at the end, precisely at the turning-point of the liturgical year. This peculiar experience of living within a paradox is a characteristic of the Christian faith. However, perhaps the greatest paradox of Advent is the tension between the joyous anticipation of the birth of Jesus and the inevitability of the cross.

In one sense, Advent does not end at Christmas. The nativity, the Incarnation, cannot be separated from the crucifixion, the Atonement. The purpose of Jesus' coming into the world, of the "Word made flesh" and dwelling among us, is to reveal God and His grace to the world through Jesus' life and teaching, but also through his suffering, death, and resurrection. So, at the beginning of things, we think about the end of things.

This evening's readings reflect this emphasis on Christ's second coming and include themes of accountability, judgement, and the hope of eternal life. The course of the service traces the witness of the prophets, of John the Baptist and of Mary, all of whom point us towards the birth of Jesus.

Towards the end of the service, Charles Wesley's hymn sums up all that we have heard and reminds us of the paradox of our faith. In the words of T.S. Eliot,

**"What we call the beginning is often the end
and to make an end is to make a beginning.
The end is where we start from."**

T.S. Eliot, Little Gidding.

Please stand for the hymns, antiphons and collects, sit for the readings and motets, and join confidently in all those parts of the service printed in bold type.

Please hold your candle upright to avoid dripping hot wax on yourself or on the tiled floor.

INTROIT

I look from afar:

And lo I see the power of God coming
and a cloud covering the whole earth.

Go ye out to meet him and say:

Tell us, art thou he that should come to reign over thy people Israel?

High and low, rich and poor, one with another.

Go ye out to meet him and say:

Hear O thou shepherd of Israel, thou that leadest Joseph like a sheep, tell us:

Art thou he that should come to reign over thy people Israel?

Stir up thy strength, O Lord, and come to reign over thy people Israel.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghost.

I look from afar:

And lo I see the power of God coming
and a cloud covering the whole earth.

Go ye out to meet him and say:

Tell us, art thou he that should come to reign over thy people Israel?

G P da Palestrina (c.1525-1594)

Matin Responsory for Advent Sunday

please remain seated and keep silence

THE SERVICE OF LIGHT

Blessed are you, Lord our God, King of the universe,
Eternal creator of day and night. Now, as darkness is falling,
hear the prayer of your faithful people,
wash away our transgressions, cleanse us by your refining fire,
and make us temples of your Holy Spirit.

May we live in watchfulness, as we wait for the coming of your Son,
Jesus Christ, who shall judge the world and all its works.

Rouse us from the sleep of sin and make us ready to enter your kingdom
where songs of praise for ever sound.

For you are the true light, who lightens everyone,
and the new heavens and the new earth

join to sing your praise,
now and for evermore. Amen

Jesus Christ is the light of the world:
A light no darkness can quench.

Please stand

HYMN



Hills of the north, rejoice,
Echoing songs arise,
Hail with united voice
Him who made earth and skies:
He comes in righteousness and love,
He brings salvation from above.

Isles of the Southern seas,
Sing to the listening earth,
Carry on every breeze
Hope of a world's new birth:
In Christ shall all be made anew,
His word is sure, his promise true.

Lands of the East, arise,
He is your brightest morn;
Greet him with joyous eyes,
Praise shall his path adorn:
The God whom you have longed to know,
In Christ draws near, and calls you now.

Shores of the utmost West,
Lands of the setting sun,
Welcome the heavenly guest
In whom the dawn has come:
He brings a never-ending light,
Who triumphed o'er our darkest night.

Shout, as you journey on,
Songs be in every mouth,
Lo, from the North they come,
From East and West and South:
In Jesus all shall find their rest,
In him the sons of earth be blest.

Tune: Little Cornard
M.F.E. Shaw (1875–1958)

Editors of the New English Hymnal, based on
Charles E. Oakley (1832–1865)

Please remain standing for the Bidding Prayer.

In the name of God,
who has delivered us from the dominion of darkness
and made a place for us in the kingdom of his beloved Son,
we welcome you: grace to you and peace.
As we meet to celebrate anew the coming of God's kingdom,
we hear revealed the mystery of God's loving purpose for us –
how that when we were far off, he met us in his Son and brought us home;
how he humbled himself to take our human nature,
that we might share his divine glory.

Let us then so celebrate this coming with our carols and hymns of praise, that our lives may be charged with his life; that we may bear witness to his glory and so bring light to those who sit in darkness.

So first we pray for those among whom the Christ was born: the poor and helpless, the aged and young children; the cold, the hungry and the homeless; the victims of poverty, injustice and oppression, the sick and those who mourn, the lonely and the unloved; those in despair or in the shadow of death.

Then, as we hear again the message of peace on earth and goodwill among all his people, we pray for the leaders of the nations, that all may be inspired to work together for the establishment of justice, freedom and peace the world over.

And that we may bear true witness to this hope in a divided world, we pray for the peace and unity of Christ's Body, the Church universal, that the whole earth may live to praise his name.

Finally, as we rejoice with the saints in heaven and on earth, we remember all who have gone before us with the sign of faith, whose hope was in the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ our Lord, through whom we offer up our prayers for the coming of his kingdom, in the words he himself has taught us, saying:

Our Father, who art in heaven,

Hallowed be thy Name.

Thy kingdom come.

Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation;

but deliver us from evil:

For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory,

for ever and ever. Amen.

Please sit

MOTET

Vox dicentis: Clama; et dixi: Quid clamabo?

A voice said: Cry; and I said, What shall I cry?

Omnis caro foenum, et omnis gloria eius quasi flos agri.

All flesh is as grass, and all its glory as the flower of the field.

Vere foenum est populus. Exsiccatum est foenum, et cecidit flos:

Truly the people is grass. The grass is dried up and the flower fades:

verbum autem Domini nostri manet in aeternum.

but the word of our God remains for ever.

Super montem excelsum ascende tu, qui evangelizas Sion:
Ascend into the heights of the mountain, you that bring good news to Sion,
exalta in fortitudine vocem tuam, qui evangelizas Jerusalem: exalta, noli timere.
raise your voice with strength, who brings good news to Jerusalem raise it up, be not afraid.
Dic civitatibus Judae: Ecce Deus vester.
Say to the city of Judah: Behold your God.

Ecce Dominus Deus in fortitudine veniet, et brachium eius dominabitur:
Behold the Lord God comes in strength and his arm shall rule:
ecce merces eius cum eo, et opus illius coram illo.
behold his fame is with him and his works go before him.

Sicut pastor gregem suum pascet, in brachio suo congregabit agnos,
As a shepherd he will feed his flock he will gather the lambs in his arms
et in sinu suo levabit, foetas ipse portabit.
and on the crook of his arm will lift the young ones and carry them.

Edward W. Naylor (1867-1934)

Isaiah 40

THE ROOT OF JESSE

THE FIRST READING

Isaiah 11: 1-5

Please stand

ANTIPHON — *O radix Jesse*

O Radix Jesse, qui stas in signum populorum,
O Root of Jesse, which standest for an ensign of the people
super quem continebunt reges os suum,
at whom kings shall shut their mouths
quem Gentes deprecabuntur: veni
to whom the Gentiles shall seek
ad liberandum nos, jam noli tardare.
Come and deliver us, and tarry not.

COLLECT

O Lord, you have set before us the great hope
that your kingdom shall come on earth,
and have taught us to pray for its coming:
give us grace to discern the signs of its dawning,
and to work for the perfect day
when your will shall be done on earth
as it is in heaven;
through Jesus Christ our Lord
Amen.

Please sit

Motet

Rorate coeli desuper, et nubes pluant justum:

Drop down, ye heavens, from above, and let the skies pour down righteousness.

aperiatur terra, et germinet saluatorum.

let the earth open, and let it bring forth salvation.

Josef Rhienberger (1839-1901)

The Advent Prose

Please stand

HYMN



**Long ago, prophets knew
Christ would come, born a Jew.
Come to make all things new;
Bear his People's burden,
Freely love and pardon.**

*Ring, bells, ring, ring, ring!
Sing, choirs, sing, sing, sing!
When he comes, When he comes,
Who will make him welcome?*

**God in time, God in man,
This is God's timeless plan:
He will come, as a man,
Born himself of woman,
God divinely human.**

*Ring, bells, ring, ring, ring!
Sing, choirs, sing, sing, sing!
When he comes, When he comes,
Who will make him welcome?*

**Mary, hail! Though afraid,
She believed, she obeyed.
In her womb God is laid;
Till the time expected
Nurtured and protected.**

*Ring, bells, ring, ring, ring!
Sing, choirs, sing, sing, sing!
When he comes, When he comes,
Who will make him welcome?*

**Journey ends! Where afar
Bethlehem shines, like a star,
Stable door stands ajar.
Unborn Son of Mary,
Saviour, do not tarry!**

*Ring, bells, ring, ring, ring!
Sing, choirs, sing, sing, sing!
Jesus comes! Jesus comes!
We will make him welcome!*

Personent hodie. Melody from *Piae Cantiones* 1582

F. Pratt Green b 1903

Please sit

LOOKING FOR THE LIGHT

THE SECOND READING

1 Thessalonians 5 : 1-11

ANTIPHON - *O Clavis David*

Please stand

O Clavis David et sceptrum domus Israel

O Key of David and Sceptre of the house of Israel

qui aperis, et nemo claudit claudis, et nemo aperit: veni

that openest, and no man shutteth and shuttest, and no man openeth

et educ vinctum de domo carceris

come and bring the prisoner out of the prison house

sedentem in tenebris, et umbra mortis.

and him that sittest in darkness, and the shadow of death

COLLECT

Lord our God,

on the first day of creation

you made the light that scatters all darkness.

Let Christ, the light of lights,

hidden from all eternity,

shine at last on your people

and free us from the darkness of sin.

Fill our lives with joy

as we go out to welcome your Son at his coming.

We ask this in the name of Jesus the Lord. Amen.

Please sit

MOTET

Never weather-beaten sail more willing bent to shore.

Never tired pilgrim's limbs affected slumber more,

Than my wearied sprite now longs to fly out of my troubled breast:

O come quickly, sweetest Lord, and take my soul to rest.

Ever blooming are the joys of Heaven's high Paradise.

Cold age deafs not there our ears nor vapour dims our eyes:

Glory there the sun outshines whose beams the blessed only see:

O come quickly, glorious Lord, and raise my sprite to thee!

Richard Shephard (1949-2021)

Thomas Campion (1567-1620)

THE WITNESS OF THE PROPHETS

THE THIRD READING

Malachi 4

ANTIPHON - *O Adonai*

Please stand

O Adonai et Dux domus Israel

O Adonai, and leader of the house of Israel,

qui Moysi in igne flammae rubi apparuisti et ei in Sina legem dedisti

who appearedst in the bush to Moses in a flame of fire, and gavest him the law in Sinai

veni ad redimendum nos in brachio extento

come and deliver us with an outstretched arm.

COLLECT

Stir up your power, Lord,
and with great might come among us;
and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins,
let your bountiful grace speedily help and deliver us;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Please sit

MOTET

This is the truth sent from above,
The truth of God, the God of love:
Therefore don't turn me from your door,
But hearken all, both rich and poor.

Thus we were heirs to endless woes,
Till God the Lord did interpose,
And so a promise soon did run,
That he would redeem us by his Son.

The first thing which I do relate
Is that God did man create,
The next thing which to you I'll tell,
Woman was made with man to dwell.

And at this season of the year
Our blest Redeemer did appear,
And here did live, and here did preach,
and many thousands he did teach.

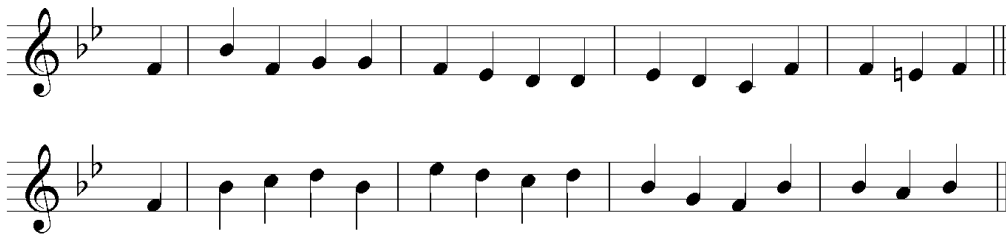
Thus he in love to us behaved,
To show us how we must be saved;
And if you want to know the way,
Be pleased to hear what he did say:

Arr. R. Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

Traditional

Please stand

HYMN



On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's cry
Announces that the Lord is nigh;
Come then and hearken, for he brings
Glad tidings from the King of kings.

For thou art our salvation, Lord,
Our refuge and our great reward;
Without thy grace our souls must fade,
And wither like a flower decayed.

Then cleansed be every Christian breast;
And furnished for so great a guest;
Yea, let us each our hearts prepare
For Christ to come and enter there.

Stretch forth thine hand to heal our sore,
And make us rise to fall no more;
Once more upon thy people shine,
And fill the world with love divine

All praise, eternal Son, to thee,
Whose advent sets thy people free;
Whom, with the Father, we adore,
And Holy Ghost for evermore. Amen.

Tune: Winchester New
Wittwe's *Musicalisches Handbuch*, Hamburg, 1690

Charles Coffin (1676–1749)
trans. J. Chandler (1806–76)

Please sit

JOHN THE BAPTIST

THE FOURTH READING

Malachi 3:1-6

Please stand

ANTIPHON – *O sapientia*

O Sapientia, quae ex ore Altissimi prodiisti
O Wisdom, which camest out of the mouth of the most High,
attingens a fine usque ad finem fortiter suaviterque disponens omnia:
and reachest from one end to another, mightily and sweetly ordering all things:
veni ad docendum nos viam prudentiae.
Come and teach us the way of prudence.

COLLECT

Almighty and everlasting God,
whose servant and prophet John the Baptist
bore witness to the truth as a burning and shining lamp:
Lead us to bear witness to your Son,
who is the eternal light and truth,
and lives and reigns with you
and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. Amen.

Please sit

MOTET

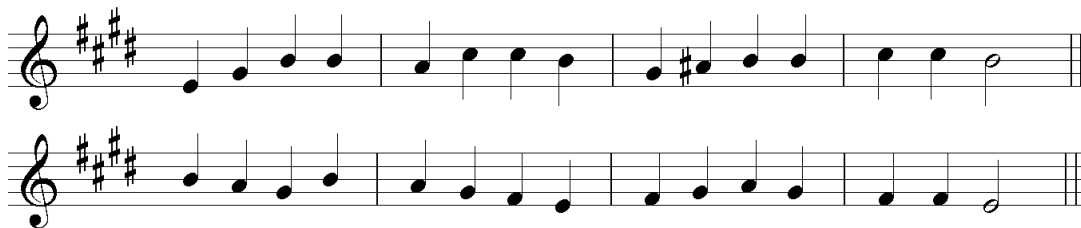
This is the record of John,
when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him,
Who art thou?
And he confessed, and denied not;
and said plainly: I am not the Christ.
And they asked him, What art thou then? Art thou Elias?
And he said, I am not.
Art thou the prophet?
And he answered, No.
Then said they unto him, What art thou?
that we may give an answer unto them that sent us. What sayest thou of thyself?
And he said, I am the voice of him that crieth in the wilderness,
Make straight the way of the Lord.

Grayston Ives (b.1948))

St John I

Please stand

HYMN



Hark! a thrilling voice is sounding,
'Christ is nigh,' it seems to say;
'Cast away the dreams of darkness,
O ye children of the day!'

Wakened by the solemn warning,
Let the earth-bound soul arise;
Christ, her Sun, all ill dispelling,
Shines upon the morning skies.

Lo! the Lamb, so long expected,
Comes with pardon down from heaven:
Let us haste, with tears of sorrow,
One and all to be forgiven;

That when next he comes with glory,
And the world is wrapped in fear,
With his mercy he may shield us,
And with words of love draw near.

Honour, glory, might, and blessing
To the Father and the Son,
With the everlasting Spirit,
While eternal ages run. Amen.

Tune: Merton William Monk (1823–1889)

Latin, 6th century, trans. Edward Caswall (1814–78)

Please sit

THE YEAR OF THE LORD'S FAVOUR

THE FIFTH READING

Isaiah 61:10 – 62:3

ANTIPHON — *O Emmanuel*

Please stand

*O Emmanuel,
O Emmanuel;
Rex et legifer noster,
our King and Lawgiver,
expectatio gentium, et Salvator earum:
the Desire of all nations, and their Salvation:
veni ad salvandum nos Domine Deus noster.
Come and save us O Lord, our God.*

COLLECT

God of tender compassion and mercy,
whose Son is the morning star and the sun of righteousness;
let him shine in the darkness and shadows of this world,
that we may serve you in freedom and peace;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Please stand

Motet

Angelus Domini nuntiavit Maria, et concepit de Spiritu sancto.
The angel of the Lord declared unto Mary, and she conceived of the Holy Ghost.

Ave Maria, gratia plena, Dominus tecum;
Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee;
benedicta tu in mulieribus,
blessed art thou among women,
et benedictus fructus ventris tui, Jesus
and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus

Maria dixit, ecce ancilla Domini fiat mihi secundum verbum tuum.
Mary said, Behold the handmaid of the Lord, be it done unto me according to Thy word.
Et verbum caro factum est et habitavit in nobis
And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us.

Sancta Maria, Mater Dei, ora pro nobis peccatoribus,
Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners,
nunc et in hora mortis nostrae. Amen.
now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

Franz Beibl (1906-2001)

Angelus Domini
Please sit

MARY'S RESPONSE TO GOD'S CALL

THE SIXTH READING

Luke 1:39-46

THE MAGNIFICAT

My soul doth magnify the Lord and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.
For he hath regarded the lowliness of his hand-maiden.
For behold, from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed.
For he that is mighty hath magnified me and holy is his Name.
And his mercy is on them that fear him throughout all generations.
He hath shewed strength with his arm;
He hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.
He hath put down the mighty from their seat and hath exalted the humble and meek.
He hath filled the hungry with good things and the rich he hath sent empty away.
He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel.
As he promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his seed for ever.
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world with end. Amen.

Gabriel Jackson (b.1962) The Truro Service

THE PRAYERS

Almighty God, who by your grace called the Blessed Virgin Mary
and opened for all the door
of infinite mercy and eternal light:
Fill us with your grace,
that, through our obedience and faith,
the world may rejoice in your mercy
and walk in your light;
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

God our Father,
the angel Gabriel told the Blessed Virgin Mary
that she was to be the mother of your Son.
Though Mary was afraid,
she responded to your call with joy.
Help us, whom you call to serve you,
to share like her in your great work
of bringing to our world your love and healing.
We ask this through Jesus Christ,
the Light who is coming into the world.

Lord Jesus, Light of the world,
blessed is Gabriel who brought good news;
blessed is Mary your mother and ours:
Bless your Church preparing for Christmas;
and bless us your children who long for your coming.

Please stand

HYMN



Lo! he comes; with clouds descending,
Once for favoured sinners slain;
Thousand thousand saints attending
Swell the triumph of his train;
Alleluia!
God appears on earth to reign.

Every eye shall now behold him
Robed in dreadful majesty;
Those who set at nought and sold him,
Pierced, and nailed him to the Tree,
Deeply wailing,
Shall the true Messiah see.

Those dear tokens of his Passion
Still his dazzling body bears,
Cause of endless exultation
To his ransomed worshippers:
With what rapture
Gaze we on those glorious scars!

Yea, Amen; let all adore thee,
High on thine eternal throne:
Saviour, take the power and glory;
Claim the kingdom for thine own,
O come quickly!
Alleluia! Come, Lord, come.

Tune: Helmsley, adapted by Thomas Olivers (1725-99)
arr. Paul Plummer

John Cennick (1718-55)
Charles Wesley (1707-88)

Please keep silence and remain standing

THE FOUR LAST THINGS

THE SEVENTH READING

Revelation 22 : 1-7

Read by The Very Revd, The Dean

Come, O Lord, and visit us in peace:

that we may rejoice before you with a perfect heart.

Come, Lord Jesus, do not delay; give new courage to your people who trust in your love.

**By your coming, raise us to the joy of your kingdom,
where you live and reign, with the Father and the Holy Spirit,
one God for ever and ever. Amen.**

Christ the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you, scatter the darkness from before your path, and make you ready to meet him when he comes in glory; and the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit come down upon you and on those for whom you have prayed, this night and always. **Amen.**

May the Lord when he comes find us watching and waiting. **Amen.**

*Please remain standing for the exit of the choir and clergy
and sit for the*

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

If you need to leave during the voluntary, please return your candle to the desk and exit quietly.

*To learn more about the cathedral, and its services and events,
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or pick up a leaflet at the welcome desk*

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*To use the induction loop system provided
please turn your Hearing Aid to the T position.*

Advent and Christmas at the Cathedral

December 2024

- 1 Advent Procession 17:00
- 4 Shoppers' Carols - Belvedere College
- 5 Aidlink Concert 20.00
- 6 Mount Sackville Christmas Concert
- 7 New Dublin Voices concert 20.00
- 11 Shoppers Carols - Eureka Kells 13:30
- 10 Peata Carol service 13:15
- 11 Christmas at Christ Church concert
- 12 Christmas at Christ Church concert – *sold out*
- 13 Shoppers' Carols - Belveder College 13:30
- 13 London Concertante 20.00
- 14 Wreath-Making Workshop
- 15 Community Chorus concert, 20.00 free admission
- 16 Shoppers' Carols - Mount Carmel 13:30
- 17 Focus Ireland concert 20.00
- 20 Dublin Youth Choir Concert 20.00
- 21 Mornington Singers Concert 20.00
- 22 Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols 18.00
- 24 Festal Eucharist for Christmas Eve 23:00
- 25 Festal Eucharist for Christmas Day 11:00

For more events, please visit christchurchcathedral.ie